

Message Text

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ORIGIN FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-07 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00
OCL-00 SS-15 L-03 /054 R

DRAFTED BY A/FBO:PWSTANGE:HRF
APPROVED BY A/FBO:OCRALSTON
EUR/EX:NBASKEY
EUR/EE:CSCHMIDT
INR:JPLATTER
AMB-DES:RGARTHOFF
-----103644 272246Z /75

P R 272136Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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FRANKFURT FOR RSS/RTC, BONN FOR RCO, LONDON FOR ATO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, ASEC, ACOM

SUBJECT: PROPOSED NEW CHANCERY SITE

REF: (1) SOFIA 0662, (2) SOFIA 1247

1. FYI: UPON CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED AGENCIES,
DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT SITE NO 10, WHICH WAS
INSPECTED BY FBO STANGE AND HELLMANN AS REPORTED REFTTEL 1,
IS NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR OUR PURPOSES BECAUSE OF THE LOW
TOPOGRAPHY. END FYI.

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2. EMBASSY SHOULD REQUEST BULGARIANS TO PROPOSE ALTERNATE
SITES FOR CONSIDERATION. WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE GOB TO
FIND NEW SITES AND WOULD LIKE EMBASSY TO INVESTIGATE THEM
AND REPORT ITS REACTIONS, BUT WOULD LIKE TO POSTPONE
OFFICIAL RESPONSES, OR SUGGESTIONS OF PREFERRED LOCATION,
OR POSSIBILITY OF ACQUIRING PRESENT CHANCERY AND

RELOCATING THE MARINES, UNTIL ARRIVAL OF NEW AMBASSADOR.

3. THE MILLION DOLLARS IN THE FY 78 BUILDINGS PROGRAM IS DEPENDENT UPON THE SALE OF PROPERTY SCHEDULED TO BE SOLD IN FY 77. THE MAJOR SALE, ON WHICH THE AVAILABILITY OF THESE PROCEEDS IS LARGELY DEPENDENT, WAS DELAYED BUT HAS NOW BEEN APPROVED AND WILL GO FORWARD. IT MAY BE NOVEMBER

OR DECEMBER, 1977, BEFORE RESULTS OF THIS PROPOSED SALE ARE KNOWN AND WHETHER IT WILL, IN FACT, GENERATE SUFFICIENT PROCEEDS. WE ARE QUITE CONFIDENT FUNDS FOR THE SOFIA TRANSACTION WILL BE AVAILABLE BY JANUARY 1, 1978, BUT CANNOT GIVE ANY ABSOLUTE ASSURANCES ON THIS SCORE.

4. BULGARIANS APPARENTLY REMAIN EAGER TO ACQUIRE SITE IN WASHINGTON. THEIR URGENT EFFORTS TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY FROM NATIONAL CATHEDRAL LEAVE US WONDERING IF THEY ARE READY AND WILLING TO PAY CASH FOR THE PLOTS IN THE VAN NESS SITE. THEY ARE VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN THE TWO VAN NESS PLOTS AND OUR CONCERN IS THAT THE GOB, IN ITS EAGERNESS TO GET STARTED ON NEW EMBASSY BUILDINGS IN WASHINGTON, MIGHT PAY CASH TO ACQUIRE THOSE SITES AND LOSE SOME OR ALL OF ITS INTEREST IN FINDING A SITE IN SOFIA FOR US. DESPITE THIS POSSIBILITY, OUR ABILITY TO FUND OUR SITE ACQUISITION IS STILL UNFIRM AND WE MUST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PLAN ON STRINGING THIS ALONG UNTIL NOVEMBER, DECEMBER OR JANUARY. THEREFORE, WE NOTE AGAIN THAT BULGARIANS SHOULD BE REQUESTED TO PROPOSE ALTERNATE SITES BUT WE MAY USE AMBASSADOR GARTHOFF'S SEPTEMBER ARRIVAL AS A JUSTIFICATION FOR DELAYING AGGRESSIVE ACTION ON OUR PART TO RESOLVE THE EXCHANGE OF SITES. VANCE

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770616/aaaaanso.tel
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SAS ID: 2026093
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED NEW CHANCERY SITE
TAGS: ABLD, ASEC, ACOM
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